

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9088

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2904

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN KN KS

SUBJ: KOREA IN 28TH UNGA

1. THERE HAS BEEN RECENT SPATE OF PRESS STORIES ALLEGING ROK PRESSURES AGAINST OPPOSITION AND DISSENTERS AT HOME AND ABROAD. TODAY'S NEW YORK TIMES CLAIMS ROK ACTIONS AGAINST KOREAN CITIZENS IN US. THESE REPORTS CAUSE ME SOME CONCERN AS I LOOK AHEAD TOWARD DIFFICULT CAMPAIGN ON KOREAN ISSUE IN 28TH GA.

2. WE OF COURSE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT STORIES ACCURATELY REFLECT OF ANY ACTUAL CHANGE IN ROK CONDUCT. FACT REMAINS THAT REPORTS AND SPECULATION OF KIND WE HAVE BEEN READING MAKE OUR TASK AT UN MORE DIFFICULT AND COULD, IF CONTINUED, AFFECT OUR PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS. COMMITMENT OF KEY ALLIES (E.G., JAPAN, AUSTRALIA) TO CAMPAIGN VIGOROUSLY COULD BE ERODED.

3. I WOULD LEAVE IT ENTIRELY TO WASHINGTON TO JUDGE WHETHER THERE IS ANY COUNSEL THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PRESIDENT PARK. I MERELY WISH EMPHASIZE RELEVANCE OF "INTERNAL" DEVELOPMENTS TO ROK'S PROSPECTS IN UN.
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